



Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

yet so effectively that we didn't know it was begun before it was finished. That is a mighty big job for one man to have done."

Considered in every aspect, *The Americanization of Edward Bok* is an affording and a significant book. In style it is as simple and perspicuous as Xenophon's *Anabasis*, which was also written in the third person and by a man of shrewd common sense who trusted his instincts. The comparison is not far-fetched; the Greek common sense wasn't so far from modern American common sense as some have imagined, and men of superlative sense and lucid mind are rare enough in any age to justify a parallel.

EUROPE: 1789-1920. By E. R. Turner, Ph.D., Professor of European History in The University of Michigan. Garden City: Doubleday, Page & Company.

Dr. Turner's book is one of an admirable class. The periods of European history treated broadly yet accurately supply the reader with almost all the historical knowledge, apart from a moderate familiarity with the history of his own land and people, which is absolutely essential for culture. In the case of most, indeed, the chief cultural value lies just in the outline, in the complete view, rather than in any historical study which the reader may be induced to do in the way of attempting to absorb details or to draw conclusions. Historical knowledge gained in youth may come to a man's assistance when his mind has matured, but its direct value as discipline is probably less than that of the sciences. Hence, for most, historical study is best conceived as a broadening process rather than as a detailed discipline, and hence the pre-eminent value of such books as this of Dr. Turner's. Of course, a general sketch is of little value without a background, without "apperceptive ideas", but the background may be gained by judicious reading without abandoning one's mind to details. Again, such a book as this affords the best possible basis for detailed study, if the latter is desired.

The reason for a new book of this kind is briefly the alteration in historical perspective brought about by the Great War, and this alteration involves two specific changes: a change in the significance attached to earlier events, and a change of emphasis and proportion.

Of these, the latter consideration appears to be the more important by far. One does not see, for example, that the French Revolution has been better understood since the war than it was before that catastrophe. Comparisons between the French and the Russian Revolutions are, of course, notoriously inexact and misleading if carried far. Perhaps, now that we have witnessed virtually the same thing ourselves, we may look back with somewhat altered feeling upon the Congress of Vienna. "In 1814 and 1815 at Vienna," writes Dr. Turner, "as in 1919 at Paris, those who wished the settlement made by all the Powers interested were obliged to see the decisions made in small

secret meetings and determined only by the most powerful states. In both cases, perhaps, the work could have been done in no other way."

But it is the change of proportion and emphasis made necessary by the treatment of the War of Nations that most distinguishes the book from those previously written and used. It is only a little past the middle of the volume that one comes upon a reference to a thing so strikingly contemporary as the play, *An Englishman's Home*. The bibliographies appended to each chapter are rich in the titles of books published during the years 1913-1919.

The whole later period is treated in a manner by no means powerful, nor intended to be, but adequate for instruction. In style and method the latter half of the book is somewhat like those editorial summaries of current events contained in some of the best modern journals. It is concise, considered, rather neutral, but useful for exactly the purpose for which it was designed, that of giving perspective; and it is authoritative as based upon wide reading and judicious sifting. There is no neutrality, however, in Dr. Turner's discussion of responsibility for the war, nor is the author too "scientific" a historian to make one feel the emotions of the war or marvel at its vast results in destruction and in achievement.

The tone of the discussion of the Peace Conference is no more pro-League than is natural to one considering broad results apart from immediate issues. There is no *ex parte* argument. No one can easily quarrel with the statement that "the results of the war being what they were, the peace was probably as good a one as under the circumstances was to be made." A good reservationist and one whose ideas concerning the treaty-making power are quite sound, can readily accept all this.

On the whole, one feels distinctly wiser after reading this book. Its value lies not so much in the backward glimpses of the past from the present point of view as in the light thrown forward on the war and upon our present state by the course of events since 1879. Through this book one is enabled in some fashion to see the march of events steadily and to see it whole—to view the war as part of the story of an epoch, and thereby in some fashion mentally to assimilate it with the rest of our knowledge concerning this mysterious world and our mysterious selves.

FREE THINKERS OF THE NINETEENTH CENTURY. By Janet E. Courtney, O.B.E. New York: E. P. Dutton & Company.

It is a little hard for many of us to-day to realize how deeply our common life has been affected by certain freethinking men and women of the nineteenth century—"those spiritual teachers and masters from whom the generation now grown to maturity has learned its love of freedom." Frederick Dennison Maurice is almost forgotten, the main part of his influence blended indistinguishably now with the currents of our ordinary thinking, the rest, the personal part, too fragile, too subtle, to survive for long the actual personality